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PEI-P'ING AND T' IEN-CHING AFTER "LIBERATION"

Pei-p'ing and T'ien-ching have been "liberated." That this is a great victory in a military sense for the Communists there is no use denying. But politically it has its hidden stumbling blocks. Through lack of administrative talent, the Chinese Communists have encountered many unforeseen troubles in the early experiences of governing a city by Marxism-Leninism and the policies of the New Democracy.

T'ien-Ching is the most important industrial center in north China. After the Communists took it over, Communist political workers thought to govern it through the experience they had gained in villages, but in fact they have shown themselves failures. When the Communist troops first entered the city, riding in pedicabs was forbidden; a pedicab passenger was forced to get out and walk, for the Communists claimed that this was imposing on the labor class, forcing a laboring man to sell his strength. As a result, no one dared to ride ~~in a~~ pedicab, and consequently the pullers had no income; so they perforce had to rise en masse and petition the Communist authorities to abolish this ordinance.

The Communists have all along professed to improve the life of peasants and laborers; therefore, as soon as they entered this industrial city of North China, they at once raised the laborers' standards of living, and gave strict orders to the factories not to shut down, or discharge any workers. They also sent out youths without any experience, not even any industrial experience, to supervise in the factories.

The Communist had no way to speed up production. For example, in the seven mills of the Chung-fang Company, 70 percent of the cotton had to be American or from some other country. The consequence of their all having to remain open was that raw materials were insufficient! This was changed to operating in turn, and even this was hard to keep going. Thus, not only did they fail to speed up production, but the workmen also failed to benefit from a higher scale of living and were forced into greater hardships. At present,

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When people in Pei-p'ing and T'ien-ching mention the cities, they usually speak of the two together, but this is only because of geography. T'ien-ching is an industrial center. Pei-p'ing a cultural city, an educational center. Today, Pei-p'ing's educational institutions, in both structure and appearance are out of character.

The three famous universities in Pei-p'ing, Pei-ta, Ch'ing-hua, and Yen-ching have had their ethical courses abolished, while the theories and teachings of Marx and Lenin are already widely taught. In all three universities, courses in Marxism-Leninism have been started. Besides, it is claimed that the law courses in these three universities are not consonant with courses in the New Democracy, but only edicts by which the Kuomintang oppresses the people. While the Communists have not abolished them openly, yet under such ridicule, criticism and attack, 50 percent of the students have already changed their department. What the democratic nations recognize as an indispensable condition of democratic government, namely "law," in the Communist liberated areas just becomes "exceptional."

Today Pei-p'ing is not merely the educational center of North China, but also a training camp for the CCP. In this venerable and tranquil city the Communists have established the People's Revolutionary University, the North China Military Government University, the North China University, etc., with training-classes graduating in 4-6 months. They have enrolled about 20,000 students in Marxism-Leninism, and in Mao Tse-tung's revolutionary doctrines and military tactics. Besides, there is a "Southern Expedition Workers' Group," which also has 10,000-20,000 students, who are given a short term of training in Pei-p'ing and then sent out to work. In addition, the Communists have started a research institute in Pei-p'ing to give special attention to the difficulties which the Chinese Communists are encountering in their political administration. For example, this institute quite recently was investigating the question of Pei-p'ing's population. According to Communist studies, Pei-p'ing still has 2,500,000 people, of whom only 1,200,000 have work, the remainder being unemployed or idle. The vast majority of them are engaged in agriculture; some are in commerce, some in industry, and some in education. The Communists are endeavoring to solve the problem of unemployment by organizing the labor force and by giving help in various ways.

In "liberated" Pei-p'ing and T'ien-ching at present nothing really constructive can be mentioned. The Communists lack administrative personnel for cities; and Marxism-Leninism certainly does not meet China's needs.

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